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(sent via fax)

Mr. Lester Snow
Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth St. Suite 1155
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

October 1, 1996

Dear Lester:

I have reviewed the agenda package for the BDAC Assurances Workgroup Meeting of 10/2/96 and would like to offer some suggestions and observations. In the Assurances Workgroups the use of terminology and the specific wording of phrases is of paramount importance. Assurances are by nature not vague. Indeed the definition of one who is assured is "...certain or guaranteed."

The use of terms has become increasingly important and consistency in terms should "bridge" the various tasks being carried out by individual workgroups. I do not offer insights beyond those workgroups where I am actively participating and therefore my own comments may suggest language which is inconsistent with terms of another workgroup. It is my fervent hope that the CALFED Editor In Chief will sort this all out (with the obligatory use of overheads).

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this material.

Sincerely,

John S. Mills

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- V.D. That conveyance improvements identified in the solution will not significantly impair existing water rights.
- VI.A. That new storage projects identified in the solution will be permitted, funded and constructed.
- VI.B. That the water supply benefits of new storage identified in the solution, in quantity and reliability, will be realized.
- VI.C. That foreseeable changes in regulatory constraints will not impair storage improvements identified in the solution.
- VI.D. That new storage facilities or new conjunctive use and banking programs identified in the solution will not significantly impair existing water rights.

VII.A.

That a revenue stream for the ecosystem restoration programs identified in the solution will be quantified and stable.

VII.B.

That the costs of the program as defined in the solution will be spread equitably and commensurate with the benefits received.

Part IV Process- Comment

- III.F. As worded (in this example), this would appear to be a pre-CEQA judgment regarding the criteria for selecting an alternative. The least cost alternative, even with "assurances" may not necessarily equal the preferred project for various other reasons.

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End